

Abstract

A method for arbitrating between a plurality of access requests issued in relation to a resource by a plurality of requestors, wherein each request can be one of at least two types, a first of the types having a higher latency associated with its performance than at least some of the other types, the method including the steps of: (a) receiving a plurality of the access requests; (the requests are not placed anywhere, they are simply received); (b) maintaining a current pointer that points to a current timeslot in a timeslot list, and at least one lookahead pointer that points to a future timeslot in the timeslot list; and (c) in the event an access request as arbitrated via the lookahead pointer is of the first type, initiating performance of the access request earlier than the position in the list suggests it would be performed should it be started when the current pointer reached the timeslot.

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